

REMARKS


With entry of this preliminary amendment, claims 1-6, 9, 10, and 27 are pending. Claims 7, 8, 11-26, and 28-48, have been canceled due to their withdrawal from examination.

Applicants urge on the basis of the arguments made of record in the Response filed April 21, 2003 that the amended claims are in condition for allowance. Early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Foley & Lardner
Washington Harbour
3000 K Street, NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20007-8696
Tel. No. (202) 672-5300
Facsimile No. (202) 672-5399



Matthew E. Mulkeen
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 44,250